



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COLUMBIA WOMAN SENTENCED FOR PURCHASING FIREARM FOR RICHARD EVANS

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Columbia, Mo., woman was sentenced in federal court today for illegally purchasing a firearm for her former boyfriend, Richard T. Evans, who committed suicide as he was being sought by law enforcement officers in connection with the shooting death of a Columbia, Mo., police officer.

Christinia R. Lowe, 24, of Columbia, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey this afternoon to spend three months in a halfway house followed by three months of home detention.

On June 16, 2005, **Lowe** pleaded guilty to making a false statement to purchase a firearm. By pleading guilty, **Lowe** admitted that she made a false statement on May 27, 2003, when she was purchasing a firearm from the Second Amendment Gun Shop in Columbia.

The false statement was made when **Lowe** represented on a Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Form 4473 that she was the actual buyer of a firearm, Graves said. In reality, she was not purchasing the firearm for herself but instead purchasing it for Evans.

Evans shot himself in the head on Jan. 11, 2005, as he was being sought by Columbia Police in connection with the shooting of Officer Molly Bowden on Jan. 10, 2005.

The firearm that **Lowe** purchased for Evans was not the firearm used in the shooting death of Officer Bowden, Graves said. However, during the course of the investigation into Officer Bowden's death, law enforcement officers discovered that **Lowe** assisted Evans in acquiring a firearm, which is, in itself, an illegal activity.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Anthony P. Gonzalez. The case was

investigated by the Columbia, Mo., Police Department, the Boone County, Mo., Sheriff's Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the University of Missouri-Columbia Police Department and the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow